

[Joining Tubular Members]

Abstract

An apparatus includes a first connector and a member. The first connector connects a first tubing section and a second tubing section together. The member is adapted to be moved from a retracted to an extended position to form a sealed connection between a first tubular member that is connected to the first tubing section and a second tubular member that is connected to the second tubing section. In another embodiment of the invention, an apparatus includes a first connector and a member. The first connector forms a connection between a first tubing section and the second tubing section and leaves a gap between a first end of a first tubular member that is connected to the first tubing section and a second end of a second tubular member that is connected to the second tubing section. The member is inserted into the gap to seal the first tubular member and the second tubular member together. In another embodiment of the invention, an apparatus includes a pin end that includes a first passageway in communication with a first tubular member and a second passageway in communication with a first tubing section. The apparatus also in-

cludes a box end that is adapted to receive a pin end. The box end includes a third passageway that is in communication with a second tubular member and a fourth passageway that is in communication with a second tubing section. The apparatus includes a locking mechanism to secure the pin end and the box end together.